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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Group 2100

In re the application of: Steve A. Herweck, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.: 09/903,374

Examiner:

Filed: July 11, 2001

For: PROSTHESIS AND METHOD OF MAKING
A PROSTHESIS HAVING AN EXTERNAL
SUPPORT STRUCTURE

Attorney Docket No.: ATA-297

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

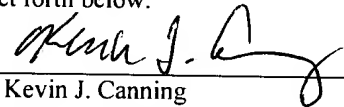
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August 24, 2001

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By:


Kevin J. Canning
Reg. No. 42,482
Attorney for Applicants

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PRE
AMEND
A


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, please add the following sentence:

 This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) to U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/217,884, filed July 11, 2000.